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Date: December 3, 2003

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To: Examiner Duane Smith

Fax No: (703) 872-9306

Company: Group 1754
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Office

Phone No: (703) 308-3792

From: John R. Wetherell, Ph.D.

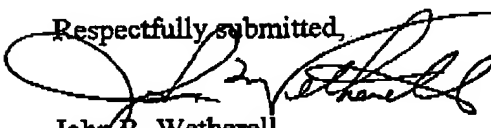
Phone No: (858) 509-4022

User No: 14619

C/M No: 009848-0283674

Re: USSN 09/954,701
Sichmann, et al.
Filed: September 14, 2001Responsive to the Notice of Abandonment dated September 26, 2003, attached
herewith are copies of the complete filing of September 12, 2003 for your review

Respectfully submitted,


John R. Wetherell
Registration No. 31,678

Confidentiality Note:

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Dated: December 3, 2003


Patricia Muñoz

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70051561V1

PAT-103 5/02 PTO RECEIPT FOR INDICATED ITEMS Any IRW
 Appl. No: 09/954,701 Date 09/12/03
 Filed: September 14, 2001 C# 009848
 Inventor(s) SICHMANN, et al M# 0283674
 Title: Apparatus and Method for Avoiding Gas Bubbles When
 Transporting a Liquid by Means of Pumps

ENCLOSED:

- ☐ Amendment ☐ Appendix ☐ Cover sheet
 # ___ No. of Pages Abstract
 # ___ No. of numbered Claims only
☐ Declaration (___ #pgs)
☐ Assignment ☐ Cover Sheet
 # ___ No. of Priority Documents
 # ___ No. Sheets Drawings (Fig(s) to ___) ☐ 1 set Formal
☐ IDS Letter ☐ cited Appl(s). ☐ Foreign sch rept/OA
☐ PTO-1449 ☐ cited docs.

\$ No Fee Enclosed - please charge deposit account

Other: Transmittal Letter, Reply/Amendment/Letter (in duplicate); Response to
 OA mailed March 12, 2003; Updated Inventor Declaration; Courtesy copy of
 revised formal figures; and Return Postcard

PAT-103 5/02 PTO RECEIPT FOR INDICATED ITEMS Any IRW
 Appl. No: 09/954,701 Date 09/12/03
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☐ PTO-1449 ☐ cited docs.

\$ No Fee Enclosed - please charge deposit account

Other: Transmittal Letter; Reply/Amendment/Letter (in duplicate); Response to
 OA mailed March 12, 2003; Updated Inventor Declaration; Courtesy copy of
 revised formal figures; and Return Postcard



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Sichmann, Eggo, et al.) Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR §1.8
Serial No.: 09/954,701) I hereby certify that on the date indicated below, this
Filing Date: September 14, 2001) paper and the attached papers are being delivered via
For: APPARATUS AND) U.S. First Class Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to:
METHOD FOR AVOIDING)
GAS BUBBLES WHEN) Director of Patents
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LIQUID BY MEANS OF) P.O. Box 1450
PUMPS) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date
Date: 09/12/03
Karyn F. Massie
Date

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Director of Patents
MS: Patent Application
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing are the following:

1. Reply/Amendment/Letter (in duplicate);
2. Response to Office Action;
3. Updated Inventor Declaration;
4. Courtesy Copy of Revised formal figures (2 Sheets); and
5. Return Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, including any submitted herewith, if the attached check(s) is in the wrong amount or otherwise improper or missing, that may be due in connection with this and the attached papers, or with this application during its entire pendency to or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-2212.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Date: September 12, 2003

11682 El Camino Real, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92130-2593
Facsimile: (858) 509-4010
Direct Line: (858) 509-4022

By John B. Wetherell, Jr.
John B. Wetherell, Jr., Ph.D, Reg. No. 31,678

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being mailed via "First Class Mail" of the United States Postal Service on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, MS: Patent Application, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

Dated: September 12, 2003

By:

Karyn J. Massie

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): Sichmann, et al.

Appl. No.: 09 954,701

Series Code ↑

Serial No. ↑

Filed: September 14, 2001

Mail Stop Patent Application

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit 1724

Examiner: Duane Smith

Atty. Dkt. P 0098480283674 E 2499 US

MS

Client Ref

Appl. Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
AVOIDING GAS BUBBLES WHEN
TRANSPORTING A LIQUID BY
MEANS OF PUMPS

Sir:

REPLY/AMENDMENT/LETTER

Date: September 12, 2003

This is a reply/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the herewith attachment of same date and subject which is incorporated herein by reference and the signature below is treated as the signature to the attachment in absence of a signature thereto.

FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED

1. Small Entity claim A. <input type="checkbox"/> NOT made B. <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn C. <input type="checkbox"/> made herewith D. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> made previously		For B & C See Required Separate Paper (Pat-256)		Claims remaining after amendment	Highest number previously paid for	Present Extra	Large/Small Entity	Additional Fee	Fee Code Lg/Sm
2. Total Effective Claims		31	**minus	20	11	x \$18/\$9 =	+ \$99	103/203	
3. Independent Claims		1	***minus	3	0	x \$84/\$42 =	+ \$0	102/202	
4. If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (leave blank if this is a reissue application)..... add						+ \$280/\$140 =	+ \$0	104/204	
5. Original due Date: June 12, 2003		<input type="checkbox"/> NONE							
6. Petition is hereby made to extend the original due date to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is attached		(1 mo)	\$110/\$55 =			+ \$465		115/215	
	(2 mos)	\$410/\$205 =			116/216				
	(3 mos)	\$930/\$465 =			117/217				
	(4 mos)	\$1,450/\$725 =			118/218				
	(5 mos)	\$1,970/\$985 =			128/228				
7. Enter any previous extension fee paid since above original due date and subtract						- \$0			
8. Extension Fee						+ \$465			
9. If Terminal Disclaimer attached, add Rule 20(d) official fee						+ \$110/\$55	+ \$0	148/248	
10. If IDS attached requires Official Fee under Rule 97 (c),						+ \$180	+ \$0	126	
or if Rule 97(d) Request						+ \$180		126	
11. After-Final Request Fee per rules 129(a) and 17(r)						+ \$750/370	+ \$0	146/246	
12. No. of additional inventions for examination per Rule 129(b)						x \$750/375 ea	+ \$0	149/249	
13. Request for Continued Examination (RCE)						+ \$750/375	+ \$0	1179/1279	
14. Petition fee for							+ \$0		
15. TOTAL FEE =						\$564			
16. *If the entry in this space is less than entry in next space, the "Present Extra" result is "0".						PLEASE CHARGE OUR DEP. ACCT			
17. **If the "Highest number previously paid for" in this space is less than 20, write "20" in this space.									
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PAT-120 5/03

CHARGE STATEMENT: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official Document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Accounting/Order Nos. shown above, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal sheet is filed.

Query: Is appeal deadline now? If so, file Notice of Appeals separately.

11682 El Camino Real, Suite 200

San Diego, CA 92130-2092

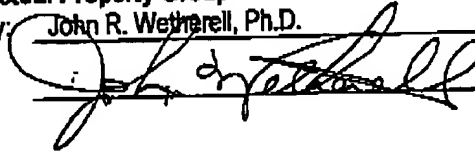
Tel: (619) 234-5000

Atty/Sec: JRW/KM

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP
Intellectual Property Group

By Atty: John R. Wetherell, Ph.D.

Sig:



Reg. No. 31,678

Fax: (858) 509-4010

Tel: (858) 509-4022

NOTE: File this cover sheet in duplicate with PTO receipt (PAT-103A) and attachments